AECHE El Gouna Conference 9-11 October 2015

Arab-Euro thematic Conference on Higher Education
The networked university: Opportunities and challenges for higher education between the Arab world and Europe

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El Gouna Conference – Expectations

- Target the **growing importance of networking** and greater interconnectivity for both Arab and European Universities

- Development of **further cooperations**

- Presentation of **concrete case studies for exchange and collaboration** between Europe and the Arab world

- **Prepare** students **best for a career in a globalised world**

- Discussion about the contribution of international joint programmes and off-shore campuses to an **internationalization of higher education**
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Session 1: The changing nature of internationalisation in a globally connected world
• Discussion about major trends in how universities and the higher education sector are becoming more **globally networked**
• Specific reference to **off-shore campuses and centres** (and their changing nature), strategic international partnerships and the **impact of evolving patterns in mobility and migration**
• How can cooperation between ‘non-traditional’ partners, like the Middle East and South America be enhanced?

Session 2: Offshore Campuses as a means for global connectivity – approaches, expectations, results
• Ways in which this approach has evolved in recent years, drawing in particular on European experiences
• Contextualisation of the topic in the European internationalisation debate
• Different **‘off-shore’ and international cooperation models** will be presented (especially El Gouna and the German-Jordanian University), their different motivations, modes of governance, intended impacts etc.
Session 3: EU policy support and programme supper to ‘European Higher Education in the world’

- Outline of present EU priorities with regards to internationalisation and networking within European higher education, particularly in the context of the European Neighborhood Policy
- Reflection on current funding mechanisms that can be used to advance this
- Current EU policies for HE internationalisation
- Focus in particular on policies and priorities towards the Southern Med and the instruments in place, like Erasmus Plus

Session 4: Capacity building through collaborative research and joint MSc/PhD programmes

- Presentation of joint programmes at the Master and PhD level as a vehicle for connecting institutions globally, rendering degrees more international, internationalising curricula and building important research linkages and capacity
- Discussion about how collaborative/joint programmes could be used to develop capacity and transfer knowledge both in teaching and research
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Session 5: Thematic areas of cooperation: Climate Change – Water and Renewable Energy
• This session will look specifically at this strategic area of collaboration between European and Arab institutions
• Case studies of different models and approaches to both teaching and research collaboration are presented as well as instruments used to facilitate this cooperation and research

Session 6: Implications of managing the networked university (on governance, management and quality assessment)
• Discussion about the implications of the networked university for university governance and management, quality assurance, etc.

Session 7: The critical need for international higher education cooperation: Europe and the Arab Region
• This panel will address the specificities of the Arab region and Europe when it comes to international higher education cooperation and ‘networked’ institutions
• It will draw important messages for AECHE that should be directed at universities and policy makers
Thank you for your attention!

Contact Information

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